

Department of Toxic Substances Control
Project Status Update
for
Wyle Laboratories Norco Facility Site
November 14, 2005

SITE INVESTIGATION/CLEANUP

- We received the results from the indoor air and soil gas sampling done at Norco High School in September. This was a follow-up to sampling done in July. We required this second round of sampling to further investigate the classrooms and to make sure that the school is safe. The results showed very low levels of TCE (trichloroethene) in three rooms, and of PCE (tetrachloroethene) in nine rooms. In most classrooms the levels in indoor air are in the same range as those found in July. These levels are similar to what's found in the outdoor air in Norco and surrounding communities. Low levels of vinyl chloride were found in two classrooms in the Science Building. These levels are similar to the vinyl chloride level found in July in one classroom in the Science Building. The vinyl chloride in these rooms does not pose a risk to students. However, it may pose a risk to a teacher who is in the room for 40 years or more. (The Science Building was constructed in 2003.) All classrooms at the high school are safe for students. Because of the repeated detections of vinyl chloride in the Science Building and the slight long-term risk to faculty, we are requiring Wyle to take measures to reduce the trace amounts of chemicals in these rooms. We will have more information on this in the near future. We are also requiring Wyle to continue monitoring indoor air, soil gas, and groundwater at the high school on a regular basis. Detailed sampling results from July and September are posted on our website.
- Indoor air sampling at two homes on El Paso Road was conducted last week. Previous air sampling was done by a private contractor hired by the residents at these two homes and one other on this street. The resident at the third home has decided not to give access to Wyle's contractor to conduct this follow-up sampling. The previous, private sampling showed trace levels of TCE, DCE (dichloroethene), and vinyl chloride in the air inside some of the three homes. We are requiring Wyle to conduct this indoor air sampling as part of the boundary reassessment of the Wyle site. This reassessment includes sampling new areas around the boundary of the Wyle property, as well as re-sampling some of the same areas tested two years ago. Due to the heavy rains last year, the groundwater has risen and conditions have changed. The new round of sampling of soil gas and groundwater will help us look for contamination that we couldn't detect the first time due to the dry conditions. Indoor air sampling results from El Paso Road should be available within four weeks.
- Workers began installing the piping for the soil vapor extraction wells on Golden West Lane last week. The piping connects the wells with the vacuum unit, which will be installed on the Wyle property. The cleanup system will use a vacuum unit to pull chemical vapors from the soil near the southern end of Golden West Lane. These vapors come from contaminated groundwater that has moved offsite from Wyle.

The chemical vapors will be put through carbon filters and the cleaned air will be discharged into the open. The vacuum unit will be installed on the Wyle property within the next few weeks.

Ongoing Remedial Investigation activities:

Last week

Onsite:

- No onsite sampling conducted last week.

Offsite:

- Indoor air sampled at 1611 El Paso Drive.
- Trenching and piping installed at 2297 Golden West Lane.

Sampling planned for this week

Onsite:

- Grading, slab construction and installation of piping for soil vapor extraction vacuum unit.
- Measure water levels in onsite wells (MW-14 and 15)

Offsite:

- Install piping at 2281 and 2270 Golden West Lane.
- Measure water levels in offsite wells (MW-16, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23 and 24)

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

- We mailed out a fact sheet on the recent Norco High School sampling results and other recent activities, and gave a copy to the Corona-Norco Unified School District to distribute to faculty and students. The fact sheet has also been posted on our website.